

REMARKS

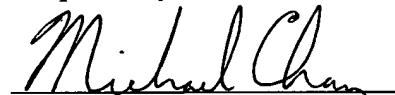
Reconsideration of the application in view of the present amendment is respectfully requested.

By way of the present amendment, claims 9-12 and 21-24 are canceled, and new independent claims 27 and 28 are added in their place, respectively. Independent claim 27 is dependent claim 12 rewritten in independent form. Independent claim 28 is dependent claim 24 rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, claims 1, 2, 7, 13, 14, 19, 25, 26, 27, and 28 are pending.

The present amendment cancels certain rejected claims and presents certain rejected claims in better form for consideration on appeal.

A Notice of Appeal (which is a second Notice of Appeal) is filed concurrently herewith.

Respectfully submitted,



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